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News Release

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Corps of Engineers remove underground tanks at Tolchester

Baltimore – A contractor hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, completed the removal of underground storage tanks at the former Nike missile site near Tolchester, Md., on Friday.

The contractor, Apex Environmental, Inc., of Rockville, Md., used backhoes to excavate and remove nine underground storage tanks, which had been used by the Army to store heating oil, diesel fuel and gasoline at the former Nike missile base. Original site plans indicated that the contractor might find as many as 11 underground tanks, three at the former launch area and eight at the former control area. Three tanks were removed at the launch area, and six were removed at the control area.

Apex conducted a thorough geophysical probe of the control area to locate the remaining two tanks. They found no evidence of the tanks at the site. Corps of Engineers' officials suspect that the tanks were either previously removed or were never installed.

Apex also removed a total of 678 cubic yards of contaminated soil, which was adjacent to several of the tanks. Environmental sampling and laboratory analysis of soil surrounding all nine tanks confirms that no contamination remains at the control or launch areas. The site underwent daily inspections by the Maryland Department of the Environment throughout the cleanup project.

For another cleanup action at the Tolchester former defense site, the Corps of Engineers is currently preparing a decision document for the active monitoring of groundwater contamination previously identified at the launch area. The groundwater contamination is unrelated to the tank removal project. The decision document is being

coordinated with the MDE and Kent County environmental officials. The final decision document should be available for public distribution in late January 2001.

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<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>

Media List

<i>The Capital</i> , daily, fax 410-280-5953	SD # 017
<i>Kent County News</i> , Thursdays	fax 410-778-6522
<i>The Sun</i> , fax 410-752-6049, daily	SD # 012
<i>Baltimore Business Journal</i>	SD # 020
<i>Tidewater Trader</i> , Wednesdays	fax 410-778-0381
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<i>Star Democrat</i> (Easton), daily	fax 410-770-4019
<i>Delaware State News & Maryland State News</i> , daily	fax 302-741-8252
<i>Montgomery County Sentinel</i> , Thursdays	fax 301-838-3458
<i>Mongtgomery Journal</i> , daily	fax 301-670-1421
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<i>The Daily Banner</i> (Cambridge), daily	fax 410-228-6547